

In the Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A tray, comprising an open-ended, non-tapered, cavity with a rib protruding into the cavity, wherein said tray and said rib is constructed of a substantially rigid material.
2. **(original)** The tray of claim 1, wherein the tray comprises of a plurality of open-ended cavities.
3. **(original)** The tray of claim 2, wherein the cavities are of uniform size and shape.
4. **(original)** The tray of claim 2, wherein the cavities are of a shape selected from the group consisting of
 - a) Polygons with angled sides;
 - b) Ovular;
 - c) Circular; and
 - d) Non-angularly shaped objects.
5. **(original)** The tray of claim 1, comprising a plurality of ribs protruding into the cavity.
6. **(original)** The tray of claim 5, wherein the ribs are of uniform size.
7. **(original)** The tray of claim 5, wherein the ribs are of variable lengths and widths.
8. **(original)** The tray of claim 5, wherein the ribs are evenly spaced.
9. **(original)** The tray of claim 5, wherein the ribs are positioned around the cavity at intervals.
10. **(original)** The tray of claim 5, wherein the ribs are longitudinally positioned along the walls of the cavity, parallel to the walls of the cavity.
11. **(original)** The tray of claim 10, wherein the ribs extend along the entire length of the walls of the cavity.
12. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 10, wherein the ribs extend partially along the walls of the cavity.

13. **(withdrawn)** A tray, comprising :
an open ended cavity including a top section and a bottom section;
a first tab created from a wall of the cavity at its bottom section; and
a second tab created from a wall of the cavity at its bottom section;
wherein said first tab and said second tab are configured to cooperate to form a platform within the interior of the cavity, wherein the platform is perpendicular to the plane of the walls of the cavity.
14. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 13, wherein the tray consists of a plurality of open-ended cavities.
15. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 14, wherein the cavities are of uniform size and shape.
16. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 14, wherein the cavities are of a shape selected from the group consisting of
- a) Polygons with angled sides;
 - b) Ovular;
 - c) Circular; and
 - d) Non-angularly shaped objects.
17. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 13, wherein multiple ribs protrude into the cavity.
18. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 17, wherein the ribs are of uniform size.
19. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 17, wherein the ribs are of variable lengths and widths.
20. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 17, wherein the ribs are evenly spaced.
21. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 17, wherein the ribs are longitudinally positioned along the walls of the cavity, parallel to the walls of the cavity.
22. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 21, wherein the ribs extend along the entire length of the walls of the cavity.
23. **(withdrawn)** The tray of claim 21, wherein the ribs extend partially along the walls of the cavity.

24. **(withdrawn)** A method of forming a tray, comprising the steps of:

pouring plastic material into a hopper;

causing an outflow of the plastic material from the hopper into a heated chamber; heating said plastic material until molten;

extruding the molten plastic material through a die; and

forcing the extruded plastic material through a cooling zone.